

UNCLASSIFIED



RELEASED IN PART
B6

WHA
United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520
E344A

APR 13 2005

Dear Mr. Wolf:

This is in reply to your letter of March 10 forwarding a letter from your constituent, [redacted] in which he expressed concern over the case of Mr. Maher Arar.

B6

Maher Arar, a dual Canadian-Syrian citizen, was detained at John F. Kennedy Airport in New York in September 2002. Mr. Arar was placed on a United States terrorist lookout list based on information received as part of the on-going general sharing of information between the Governments of the United States and Canada. The decision to remove Mr. Arar from the United States was made by U.S. Government officials in accordance with U.S. law and based on our own assessment of the security threat Mr. Arar posed to the United States. We believe that Mr. Arar's removal was in the best interests of the United States.

In his letter, [redacted] also asks whether a U.S. citizen might similarly be sent by Canada to a third country. In January 2004, the United States and Canada decided to consult expeditiously in the future before one country involuntarily removes a citizen of the other country to a third country, except in cases of extradition. This understanding does not constitute a binding international agreement.

B6

The Honorable
Frank Wolf,
House of Representatives.

2704

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 13 MAY 2009 200706444

0500 2374

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

- 2 -

We hope this information will be helpful to you. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Matthew A. Reynolds
Acting Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Drafted: WHA/CAN: Velia De Pirro, ext. ~~72228~~

F:\SEWHACAN\2005 Archive\CHRONs\Congressionals\040605 Reynolds
- Wolf re Arar.doc

Cleared:

WHA/CAN: TBreese
WHA/FO: WMiele
H: JHagan
L/LEI: JCogan
S/CT: EKaplan
DOJ: BSwartz
DHS: NBaroukh

ok
ok
ok
ok
ok
ok
ok

UNCLASSIFIED